

HF Happenings 757

Volume 15, Issue 20, the week of 3 July 2017



DXCC News

The ARRL Awards Branch has approved the recent E31A operation, Eritrea, May 2017 for DXCC credit.

3Y0Z Bouvet DXpedition (Press Release 6, dated 27 June)

In consultation with our new transportation partner Aerovias DAP, we continue to refine our plans for our Bouvet DXpedition. We expect to depart from King George Island, in the South Shetlands Islands on 13 January 2018. Our transit time to Bouvet will be between 9 and 11 days depending on weather and the sea state.

Upon arrival at Bouvet we will conduct reconnaissance flights to the island and select a campsite free of crevasses. As weather permits we will begin building our radio city on the ice and secure our infrastructure. Then antennas will go up, our equipment will be assembled and we will begin non-stop operations. We are planning to be at Bouvet for 21 days, and depending on weather and other factors we hope to be on the air for 14 to 16 days. Then we will return to either King George Island or Punta Arenas, Chile. All in all, we will be away from civilization for 6 to 7 weeks.

Final preparations continue this summer, and we still have a lot to do:

- * Equipment will be tested under simulated harsh conditions at the QTH of K9CT.
- * Antennas will be assembled, tested and packed for transit at the QTH of WB9Z.
- * The Sea Container will be packed and shipped from Atlanta the first week of October.

A team meeting will be held in Atlanta between 7 and 10 September. Topics to be discussed will include – Safety, Helicopter operations, Site selection, Shelter erection and quick deploy plans, Weather, Escape plans and rescue, Medical considerations, EME set-up and testing, Familiarization and operation of Flex Radios and Amplifiers, Propagation and our strategy, Operator scheduling and.... more.

Our fund-raising continues. We are pleased with our progress toward our goal of 740 500 USDs. The team has committed 400 000 USDs cash as well as paying for their own transportation, food and hotel expenses.

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

July

- 1 – SARL Newbie Sprint
- 2 – ZS5 Sprint
- 5 to 8 - Innibos Arts Festival, Nelspruit
- 7 to 16 Knysna Oyster Festival
- 8 and 9 - IARU HF Championships
- 14 - RAE Registration opens
- 14 to 16 - Ham Radio 2017, Friedrichshafen, Germany
- 15 – RaDAR Challenge and the SARL Winter QRP Contest
- 15 and 16 - Franschhoek Bastille Festival
- 18 to 22 - Vryfees Arts Festival, Bloemfontein
- 22 - CTARC 71st AGM
- 23 – ZS2 Sprint
- 24 - All schools open
- 25 - Closing date August Radio ZS
- 29 and 30 - RSGB IOTA Contest

August

- 1 - Tish'a B'Av
- 5 to 12 – IARU Region 1 YOTA Summer Camp, Gilwell Park, UK
- 6 – SARL HF Phone Contest
- 9 – National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint
- 11 to 13 - Klein Karoo Klassique, Oudsthoorn
- 19 and 20 - International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
- 20 – SARL HF Digital Contest
- 24 - Closing date for September Radio ZS
- 25 and 26 - Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia
- 27 - SARL HF CW Contest
- 31 Aug to 3 Sept - Gariep Kunstfees, Kimberley

DX Clubs have stepped up and some have added additional contributions as have many individual DXers. However, we are still about 200 000 USDs short. Please help if you can. We have a large payment due for the vessel and helicopters in several months.

Please check our website www.bouvetdx.org at periodically for updates and additions as we progress toward departure. You can also join our Facebook group www.facebook.com/groups/639362206232014.

For the 3Y0Z team, Ralph, KOIR, Bob, K4UEE, and Erling, LA6VM

ILLW registrations roll in

The 20th year of the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend will be in August and so far, it has 240 registrations with organisers ready for many more in the coming weeks. In the lead for the premier fun-event is Germany on 48, followed by Australia 35, the USA 30, then comes England, The Netherlands, Scotland, South Africa and Sweden.

A new country is Serbia, where Alex, YU1CA, is at the Tamis River West Lighthouse overlooking the Danube River.

The Norwegian Radio Relay League club social weekend has the Lista Lighthouse LI5TA activation, while for Finland's centenary of independence there's OH1AM at the Kylmapihlaja Lighthouse.

Other registrations come from Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Gibraltar, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Switzerland and Wales.

Simple guidelines apply to the portable use of Amateur Radio from and immediately nearby historic lighthouses and lightships. For all registrations on the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend 19 and 20 August, along with past reports and general information, visit with website www.illw.net

NCDXF Newsletter

The Northern California DX Foundation's Spring 2017 Newsletter is now available at www.ncdx.org/pages/newsletter.html. It contains articles on S9BT and S9WL (Sao Tome 2016), XX9D (Macau 2017), H44GC and H40GC (Solomon Islands and Temotu 2016).

Logs and QSLs recovered

7Q7BP, 7Q7FOC, C91MR, C93MR, C96MR, C97MR, 5X1P, 9Q5MRC, 9U5MRC, G3MRC, VK8CP and Z38/G3MRC. QSL Manager Phil Whitchurch, G3SWH, reports the following [edited], "Joe, G3MRC, became a Silent Key (SK) in early May 2017 and I am pleased to announce that I have obtained from Joe's widow copies of the logs and a quantity of blank cards for each of the above call signs. The logs had all been previously uploaded to LoTW by Joe, but have now also been uploaded to www.g3swh.org.uk, where there are log search facilities for each call.

Joe's RSGB membership lapsed at the time of his passing. Therefore, I am unable to process or respond to any bureau QSL requests what-so-ever as the RSGB QSL Bureau will not forward outgoing cards for non-members. Consequently, paper QSLs for this station are *ONLY* available DIRECT with adequate return or via the OQRS facility at www.g3swh.org.uk. There is further information on my web site.

Operating Tip

Logging ALL the Contact Information - It is good practice to log all pertinent information with your contacts, and ensure that information is also included when uploading to LOTW. Many HF operators collect counties, while VHF/UHF operators are interested in grid squares. When uploading logged contacts to LOTW, please make sure that this information is included with each contact, or make sure that your LOTW information includes your grid and county and that it's accurate for each contact. If you've already uploaded contacts to LOTW with incorrect information, you can correct it and upload those contacts again. See this document on fixing logs uploaded to LOTW <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/LoTW%20Instructions/Fixing%20Your%20Log.pdf>.

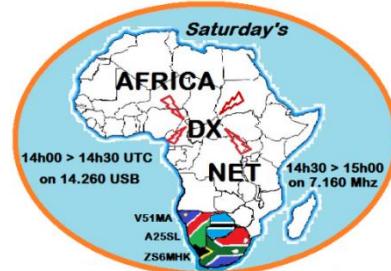
ZL1SIX Ocean Floater

The ZL1SIX Ocean Floater battery is flat and has now gone QRT after 407 days of operation - but what a fascinating project!

<http://mail01.tinyletterapp.com/ke9v/calling-cq-issue-95/8867349-www.qsl.net/zl1rs/ocean-floater.html?c=525cc316-4c9f-4513-8bcb-ec9a8d443069>

African DX

Botswana, A2. Look for a Russian team to be active from Kasane (the northern part of Botswana) between 15 and 25 September. Operators mentioned are Yuri, RM0F (A25BI), Pavel, R2AD (A25SP) and YL Elena, RC5A (A25BE). Activity will be on 160 to 6 metres using CW and SSB. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or via their home callsigns, direct and by the Bureau. Call signs A25BI and A25BE will both use LoTW.



African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Using a Drone to inspect your antennas

Flying a drone to inspect your tower and antennas could eliminate the need for a climb. For non-commercial uses, a drone operator generally does not need to be licensed, but using a drone for the business of tower inspections does require operator licensing. Here's an article that details what one person did to become licensed as a commercial drone operator and how they're using a drone for commercial broadcast tower inspections. www.radioworld.com/tech-and-gear/0003/drones-can-be-useful-in--inspecting-towers-and-antennas/339869

Word to The Wise

Non-ionizing Radiation - Electromagnetic radiation that does not have sufficient energy to displace electrons from their atoms. Radio Frequency (RF) radiation is non-ionizing.

2017 Contest University

Presentations and videos from the 2017 Contest University, held in Dayton, Ohio, are now available <https://www.contestuniversity.com/files/> and <https://www.contestuniversity.com/videos/>

Bouvet Island 2018

The presentation entitled "Bouvet Island 2018" given by Nodir, EY8MM, at the 2017 Topband Dinner is available on the Topband Dinner website <https://www.topbanddinner.com/presentations/>.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 3 to 10 July 2017

10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party

00:01 UTC 3 July to 24:00 UTC 9 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB, PSK31, RTTY, FM, AM

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 10-10 Member: Name, 10-10 number and state, province or country; Non-Member: Name, 0 and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 24 July 2017

E-mail logs to: tentencontest@ten-ten.org

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/Spirit.pdf>

IQRP Quarterly Marathon

08:00 UTC 3 July to 20:00 UTC 9 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: All

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 5 W

Exchange: RS(T)

Work stations: Once per mode
QSO Points: 2 points per CW QSO; 1 point per SSB/Digital QSO
Multipliers: km/100 of QSO with maximum distance
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x distance mult
Submit logs by: 23 July 2017
E-mail logs to: iqrclub@arimontebelluna.it
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.arimontebelluna.it/news/news_maratona_uk.htm

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 3 July
Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: United Kingdom
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 4 July 2017
Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2017/r80mcc.shtml>

ARS Spartan Sprint
01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Skinny; Tubby
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
Submit logs by: 6 July 2017
E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://arsgrp.blogspot.com/2009/02/so-whats-spartan-sprint-and-how-do-i.html>

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 5 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 7 July 2017
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 5 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 6 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 8 July 2017
Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest
17:00 - 18:00 UTC (CW) and 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB) and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 6 July (Dig)
Geographic Focus: Nordic Europe
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB, FM, Digital
Bands: 10 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS(T) and 6-character grid square
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 20 July 2017

Upload log at: http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.nrau.net/activity-competes/below-30mhz.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 7 July

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op – fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 8 July 2017

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxyhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 7 July

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 July 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.nccsprInternational.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 July

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 July 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.nccsprInternational.com/rules.html>

FISTS Summer Unlimited Sprint

00:00 - 04:00 UTC 8 July

Geographic Focus: United States/Canada

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: United States/Canada

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: QRP; QRO; Club

Max power: QRO: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and FISTS no; non-FISTS: RST, state, province or country, first name and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with FIST member; FIST members: 2 points per QSO with non-FIST member

Multipliers: Each US state and VE province once; Each DXCC country once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 August 2017

E-mail logs to: n2ed@fistsna.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

12:00 UTC 8 July to 24:00 UTC 9 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or "NONE"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 16 July 2017

Post log summary at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

IARU HF World Championship

12:00 UTC 8 July to 12:00 UTC 9 July

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unlimited - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; IARU Member Society HQ
 Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: IARU HQ: RS(T) and IARU Society; Non-HQ: RS(T) and ITU Zone no
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same zone or with HQ stations; 3 points per QSO with different zone on same continent; 5 points per QSO with different zone on different continent
 Multipliers: Each ITU zone once per band; Each IARU HQ and each IARU official once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 8 August 2017
 E-mail logs to: IARUHF@arrl.org
 Upload log at: <http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org/>
 Mail logs to: IARU HF Championship, IARU International Secretariat, Box 310905, Newington, CT 06111, USA
 Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint
 20:00 - 23:59 UTC 9 July
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands
 Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI no or power
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent; Bonus Points: 2 000 points per band for using homebrew transmitter; 3 000 points per band for using homebrew receiver; 5 000 points per band for using homebrew transceiver; 5 000 points for operating portable with emergency power and temporary antennas
 Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult: >5 W = x 1, 1 - 5 W = x 7, 250 mW - 1 W = x 10, 55 - 250 mW = x 15, < 55 mW = x 20
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 23 July 2017
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: <http://www.grpcontest.com>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests/>

CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush
 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 9 July
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 20 m Only
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST and state, province or country
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 5 points for QSO with WOCQC or NOCQC
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 8 August 2017
 E-mail logs to: vkumagai@q.com
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://www.coloradoqrpclub.org/contests/gold.htm>

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 10 July
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op
 Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 31 July 2017
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at: <http://grpcontest.com/4sqrp>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: http://www.4sqrp.com/SSS/ssss_rules.pdf

YouTube Videos

WOW was active in the Missouri QSO Party, and their video documents the multi-station setup, including antennas, operators, network, logging software setup. Operators included KE0HXL, NOSSC, KOKEV, WX5CW, WT2P and NOKTK. They were set up on the junction of three county lines.

www.youtube.com/watch?t=5s&v=H1ylS8kcX1E&app=desktop

In this YouTube video, R4WBF can be seen working a bunch of stations in the CW WPX contest at a CW speed of something over 40 words per minute. As contest videos go, this one would be pretty standard, except that then you realize that R4WBF is just 9 years old. www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBogIqzF_-k

Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 12 July
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 12 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 July
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 12 July
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 14 July
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 14 July
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 July
Russian Radio Team Championship, 07:00 - 14:59 UTC 15 July
Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge, 08:00 - 14:00 UTC 15 July
DMC RTTY Contest, 12:00 UTC 15 July to 12:00 UTC 16 July
Feld Hell Sprint, 12:00 - 13:59 UTC 15 July
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest, 18:00 UTC 15 July to 21:00 UTC 16 July
North American QSO Party, RTTY, 18:00 UTC 15 July to 05:59 UTC 16 July
RSGB Low Power Contest, 09:00 - 12:00 UTC and 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 16 July
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 17 July

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter